STATEMENTS ON THE LAND BUY-BACK PROGRAM FOR TRIBAL NATIONS

"I'm hopeful that consolidating highly fractionated lands will open doors to economic development in Indian Country. I applaud tribal leaders and the Department for implementing a program that attempts to strike a balance between the most fractionated lands and the most willing sellers."

- Mike Simpson, Chairman of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

"I am encouraged that the Department of the Interior is moving forward to implement the voluntary buy-back program after extensive consultation with tribes."

- Representative Betty McCollum

"I am pleased that steps are being taken to continue implementation of the Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations. This program will allow tribes to purchase valuable, fractionated lands from individual Indian owners for the profitable, productive use of the tribe. Hundreds of thousands of Native Americans and their tribal governments will benefit just in the immediate future from this program, but the long-term impact will benefit Native American generations to come."

- Representative Tom Cole